

Approval Date: November 5, 2007

Parent Policy: [Degrees Policy](#)

## Posthumous Degrees Procedure

<b>Office of Administrative Responsibility:</b>	Office of the Registrar
<b>Approver:</b>	Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

### Overview

A posthumous degree allows the university to recognize the efforts of a University of Alberta student who dies before being granted his/her degree.

General Faculties Council (GFC) delegates the authority for granting posthumous degrees to the Faculty Councils, each case to be examined on its own merits.

### Purpose

To establish guidelines and the procedure for granting and awarding posthumous degrees.

## **PROCEDURE**

### 1. GUIDELINES

A request to have a posthumous degree granted may be made to the deceased student's Faculty Office by a family member, friend, or member of the University community. In order to be awarded a posthumous degree, a student will have substantially satisfied the requirements for the degree program. For example, the student will be within one or two years of completing the degree requirements.

### 2. GRANTING THE DEGREE

The decision to grant a posthumous degree will normally be approved at the Faculty Council meeting at which the graduating students are approved. The Convocation and Ceremonies Office will send the posthumous degree parchment to the Dean of the recipient's Faculty, who will present it to the family in private, usually at a small reception hosted by the Dean.

### 3. CONVOCATION

The family will be invited to attend the convocation ceremony at which the deceased would have received the degree. If so desired, a family member can cross the stage carrying the appropriate hood for the degree. The family member does not wear a gown or mortar board. The deceased's name and degree will be read with the statement "awarded posthumously, being accepted by...". If the family prefers to attend the ceremony but not cross the stage, no mention of the name will be made at the ceremony. The name will be published in the convocation program, followed by "(posthumously granted)".

## **DEFINITIONS**

There are no definitions for this procedure. [\[▲Top\]](#)

## **FORMS**

There are no forms for this procedure. [\[▲Top\]](#)

**RELATED LINKS**

Should a link fail, please contact [uappol@ualberta.ca](mailto:uappol@ualberta.ca). [[▲ Top](#)]

[Office of the Registrar](#) (University of Alberta)